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November 28, 2001
By *Michelle Chan*
Michelle Chan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

WALTER AUSSERER et al.

Application No.: 09/919,505

Filed: July 31, 2001

For: HIGH THROUGHPUT
SEPARATIONS BASED ANALYSIS
SYSTEMS

Examiner: To be Assigned

Art Unit: 1743

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry and
consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 8 with the following:

This application claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/859,962, filed
May 17, 2001, and Provisional U.S. Patent Application Nos. 60/222,491, filed August 2, 2000
and 60/276,731, filed March 16, 2001. The entire disclosure of each of these applications is
hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety for all purposes.